

REMARKS

Preliminary Matters and Status of the Application

As a preliminary matter, Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 3-5 and 8-10 have been objected to, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Prior to entry of the present Amendment, claims 1-10 were all of the claims currently pending in the Application. After entry of this Amendment, claims 1, 2, 4-7, 9 and 10 will be all the claims pending in the Application. Per the current Amendment, claims 3 and 8 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claims 1, 2 and 6-7 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Publication 2007/0147257 to Oskouy et al. (hereinafter “Oskouy”) in view of U.S. Publication 2002/0078196 to Kim et al. (hereinafter “Kim”).

No other rejections or objections have been presented. The following remarks address each ground of rejection and objection presented.

Claim Objections

Claims 3-5 and 8-10 have been objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Per the current Amendment, Applicant has amended claims 1 and 6 to substantially recite the recitations of claims 3 and 8, respectively. Additionally, claims 4-5 and 9-10 have been amended to independent form. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are now allowable, and respectfully requests that the objections be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1, 2, and 6-7 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Oskouy in view of Kim.

Claim 1 is amended to include *at least* the allowable features of claim 3. Additionally, claim 1 has been amended to include intervening recitations of claim 2. Accordingly, Applicant submits that claim 1 patentably distinguishes over the cited art due *at least* to its recitations of the conceded allowable subject matter, as well as its additionally recited features. Applicant

further submits that claims 2 patentably distinguishes over the cited art due *at least* to its dependence on claim 1, as well as its additionally recited features.

With regards to claim 6, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 6 patentably distinguishes over the cited art for reasons analogous to those presented with regards to claim 1. Applicant further submits that claim 7 patentably distinguishes over the cited art due *at least* to its dependence on claim 6, as well as its additionally recited features.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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